No Gear

Full Gear

Head: Considered the most vital part of the body, the head deserves protection when riding a motorcycle.

Helmet: This is the most important piece of protective wear riders can use to help reduce injuries and fatalities in the event of a motorcycle crash. Helmets protect against head injury, windblast, cold weather and road debris. Full-faced helmets are recommended.

Helmet use reduces the risk of brain injury by 67 percent.

Face Shield: A face shield protects the eyes from dust,

dirt, debris, bugs and wind that could cause eyes

to become dry or blur a driver's vision.

Eyes, Ears and Face: Common "bare face and skin" symptoms include wind-blasted skin, watery eyes, hearing loss and lacerations to the hands, all of which cause driving to become more difficult for the rider.

Hands: Known to recoil into a curled position when exposed to the cold, hands are not genetically evolved to withstand harsh conditions for extended periods of time.

Casual Pants/Bare Limbs: The skin covering a driver's joints is especially easy to damage and can completely be removed, requiring a lengthy healing process.

Casual Shoes: In many cases a rider's feet are the first to make impact with the ground in a crash, emphasizing the importance of thick, protective footwear to prevent skin removal or broken bones. Shoes preventing a rider from properly gripping foot pegs, braking, shifting or gripping the ground, should not be worn.

Gloves: These keep hands comfortable, functional and protected against debris, wind and other weather elements. Gloves prevent severe lacerations on a driver's palms, fingertips and fingers even in a slow speed accident.

> Jacket and Pants: Long sleeves and pants protect against abrasions, sunburn, windburn, dehydration or hypothermia. Light colors or reflectivity increase a rider's visibility.

Boots: These protect the feet from road debris, prevent burns from the exhaust, provide better traction on slick surfaces and protect against skin removal from a crash. Riding boots should be heavy-duty with hard armor around the ankle.

If you knew you were going to be in an accident tomorrow, what would you wear to protect yourself?

Why not wear it every day?

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Motorcycle-related deaths have increased

by 55 percent since 2000 with more than 93,000 motorcyclists injured in 2012.

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